

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS
Post Office Box 583 Taylors, South Carolina 29687
(864) 288-9820
www.tcfogreenvillesc.org

Monthly Meeting

February 9, 2006

Always the second Thursday of the month

Topic:

“From My Heart to Yours”

For this meeting, we invite you to bring a memento of your child to share with the group. This can be something that your child treasured, something your child gave you or you gave them, or something that simply reminds you that your child lived and was loved, even if his or her life was very short (a footprint, baby blanket, hospital bracelet, etc.) Please join us.

Facilitated by:

Nona Walsler, Debbie Etherington and Margaret Renner.

Meeting Time & Location

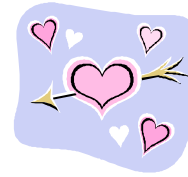
7:30 P.M.

Pelham Rd. Baptist Church,
Family Life Center
1108 Pelham Rd., Greenville, SC

Updating Newsletter Database



We are in the process of updating our database of recipients of our monthly newsletter. We are currently mailing over 300 newsletters each month. We want to make sure that those who no longer wish to receive our letter are removed from our listing. We also need to be in compliance with the National Compassionate Friends, which require us to have written permission for your child's name to appear in our "Children Remembered" column. In order to update our records, we are asking everyone who wishes to receive a newsletter, complete and return the attached form. Also if you want your child's name to appear in the newsletter on their birthdates and "angel" dates, this needs to be indicated on the form and signed. We will put another reminder in next month's newsletters. However, on April 1, 2006, any names whose forms have not been received will be removed from our mailing database. This will help us make sure that only those who truly want to receive this letter will, as well as keeping our mailing cost down. Remember you can also retrieve our newsletter on line at: www.tcfogreenvillesc.org



There's a Valentine Waiting for You

By Mary Cleckley
Lawrenceville, GA

There's a valentine waiting for you,
that's different from all the others.

It's there every month at our meetings
of heartbroken fathers and mothers.

Its envelope is made of caring,
the glue of understanding seals it tight.

This non-judgmental group who've
"been there" help to take away your
fear and fright.

So, come join with us together,
read your loving message printed clear.

In not only this month's valentine,
but all those throughout the year.



WE WILL ALWAYS LOVE....

The children still in the womb, the infants,
little ones, teens and adults.

WE WILL ALWAYS LOVE....

Those that died as a result of illness,
accident, suicide, and homicide.

WE WILL ALWAYS LOVE....

Our children, grandchildren, sisters and
brothers who lived but died too soon.

WE WILL ALWAYS LOVE....

Those of you from whom we've inherited
this legacy of love, hope, determination,
courage, and compassion.....

We acknowledge "Love Gifts" with
appreciation in memory of:

- **Matt Renner** ~ by Dick and Margaret Renner
- **Jennifer Hower** ~ by Floyd and Sharon Hower
- **Kim Grimsley Dacus** ~ by H. L. Grimsley
- **Carey and Stephanie Corder** ~ by Darrell and Sandra Corder



An empty cradle
An infant son gone forever
Sadness comforts me.

His presence lingers
Warm tears ease my deep sorrow
He's safe and at peace.

My peace will come too
My heart will keep him forever
For love endures all things.

Rebecca Wisniewski
TCF, Lowell, MA

Those of us who have worked through our
grief and found that there is a future are
the ones who must meet others in the
valley of darkness and bring them to the
light.

Rev. Simon Stephens
Founder of the Compassionate Friends

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The February newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Greg Lackey by his parents Curtis and Judy.

Our Children Remembered:

Pamela Askew – 2/18/82 ~ 11/21/00
Stacey Bannister – 7/5/67 ~ 2/15/03
Jon Carpenter – 1/31/76 ~ 2/9/02
Carey Corder – 3/15/59 ~ 2/27/03
Candy Cota – 6/4/87 ~ 2/24/04
James Cox – 2/15/77 ~ 11/21/92
Lisa Etherington – 10/9/80 ~ 2/11/00
Clifford Gammons IV-2/4/68 ~ 12/21/04
Alex Haigler – 10/1/99 ~ 2/6/04
Mikey Hummel – 2/24/52 ~ 5/1/56
Greg Lackey – 2/8/76 ~ 12/4/00
Tim Malone – 9/18/60 ~ 2/16/04
Jason Pannone – 2/2/82 ~ 3/26/05
Melissa Rowland – 7/11/81 ~ 2/10/99
Jantzen Satterfield – 2/8/88 ~ 10/17/97
Austin Shealy – 2/1/93 ~ 4/10/02
Billy Smith – 2/26/61 ~ 2/27/83
Ashley Staudinger – 2/12/82 ~ 9/13/96
Roger Strange – 2/6/61 ~ 3/13/88
Daniel Upton – 2/13/86 ~ 4/8/03
Michael VanGieson – 8/16/80 ~ 2/9/04
Arlene Walters – 2/20/82 ~ 5/7/99
Tracy Whaley – 1/9/63 ~ 2/27/70
Eric White – 8/11/57 ~ 2/5/97



**Grief never ends, but it changes.
It's a passage, not a place to stay.
The sense of loss must give way if we're
to value the life that was lived**

My Son's Voice
Author Unknown

Last night while I tried to sleep, my son's voice I did hear. I opened my eyes and looked around, but he did not appear. He said, "Mom, you've got to listen, you've got to understand; He did not take me from you Mom, He only took my hand.

When I called out in pain that day, the instant that I died. He reached down and took my hand and pulled me to His side.

He pulled me up and saved me from the misery and pain. My body was hurt so badly Mom, I could never be the same.

My search is really over now. I've found happiness within. All the answers to my empty dreams and all that I might have been.

I love you all and miss you so, and I'll always be nearby. My body's gone forever, but my spirit will never die!

And so you must all go on now. Don't be mad, please just understand. He didn't take me from you Mom, He only took my hand."

I'm Missing You

I'm missing you – all day, every day. On a bright summer morning, or when the moon is full. In the golden days of fall, as the storm clouds build and it's snowing. When the willows begin to turn green – you are always with me, in my mind and in my heart. My brother, my good friend, I'm missing you.

Kris Cunningham – TCF, Moro, IL

To Rachel Marie, we know you are with us, and we love you and miss you so very much.....

Submitted by Jill Schmidt

I'm loving you, I know you're there
Yet I'm not sure where you are.
Are you sitting here beside me,
or were you that bird that flew?
I feel the wind blow in my ears,
and I'm wondering if it's you.
Are you looking over my shoulder?
Are you holding my hand right now?
I want to tell you that I love you,
I'm just not sure if I know how.
I can feel you wiping my teardrops,
and asking me, please not to cry.
But I'm missing you, loving you so much.
And I'm wondering why you had to die.

Poem by Brandy Sively Porlera

NOTICE
Steering Committee Meeting

Thurs. Feb. 2nd at 7:30 P.M.

Pelham Rd. Baptist Church,
Family Life Center
1108 Pelham Rd. Greenville, SC

The Compassionate Friends Steering Committee will be discussing various "Projects for 2006". This meeting is open to anyone who might have an interest in working on any of these projects. Projects to be discussed include: International Candle Lighting Ceremony, Fund Raising, Community Awareness, Chapter Website, TCF Chapter Walk, etc.